

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

5

1. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

10 a display section displaying a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and

an issuing section issuing a search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword in a  
15 dictionary which is selected as a search target on the menu screen with respect to a dictionary search program.

20

2. The computer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said issuing section issues the search request for the dictionary data specified by the  
25 keyword, with respect to a plurality of dictionaries which are selected as search targets during a time when a define instruction is made to define the input characters.

30

3. The computer as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

35 an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define the input

characters.

5

4. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

10 a display section displaying a menu screen indicating registered programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and

a starting section starting a program which is selected on the menu screen while specifying the  
15 keyword or an attribute value corresponding to the keyword as a parameter.

20

5. The computer as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

a registering section registering data of a corresponding relationship of the keyword and the  
25 corresponding attribute value, according to an interactive process.

30

6. The computer as claimed in claim 4, wherein said display section displays a program which cannot be started by the keyword on the menu screen with a format which indicates that the  
35 program cannot be started.

7. The computer as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen when  
5 a define instruction is made to define the input characters.

10

8. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

15 a display section displaying a menu screen used for starting a program corresponding to the keyword when the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and

20 a starting section starting the program corresponding to the keyword when a program start request is issued using the menu screen.

25

9. The computer as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

a registering section registering data of a corresponding relationship of the keyword and the  
30 program, according to an interactive process.

35

10. The computer as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

an ending section ending a started program in

response to a selection made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define the input characters.

5

11. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

10 a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

a display section displaying a menu screen indicating registered conversion programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and

15 a starting section starting a conversion program which is selected using the menu screen to subject the keyword to a conversion according to the selected conversion program.

20

12. The computer as claimed in claim 11, wherein said display section displays a conversion  
25 program which cannot convert the keyword on the menu screen with a format which indicates that the program cannot convert.

30

13. The computer as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

35 an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define the input

characters.

5

14. A computer having a character input function, comprising:

a detecting section detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

10 a display section displaying a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in a state where the keyword is detected by said detecting section; and

15 an executing section executing a process using the keyword depending on an item selected on the menu screen.

20

15. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

25 (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

(b) displaying a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is detected by said step (a); and

30 (c) issuing a search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword in a dictionary which is selected as a search target on the menu screen with respect to a dictionary search program.

35

16. A method of carrying out a process

depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;
  - 5 (b) displaying a menu screen indicating registered programs when the keyword is detected by said step (a); and
  - (c) starting a program which is selected on the menu screen while specifying the keyword or an attribute value corresponding to the keyword as a parameter.
  - 10
- 15
17. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:
- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;
  - 20 (b) displaying a menu screen used for starting a program corresponding to the keyword when the keyword is detected by said step (a); and
  - (c) starting the program corresponding to the keyword when a program start request is issued using the menu screen.
  - 25

30

18. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;
- 35 (b) displaying a menu screen indicating registered conversion programs when the keyword is

detected by said step (a); and

- (c) starting a conversion program which is selected using the menu screen to subject the keyword to a conversion according to the selected conversion program.

10                   19. A method of carrying out a process depending on input characters, comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;
- 15       (b) displaying a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in a state where the keyword is detected by said step (a); and
- (c) executing a process using the keyword depending on an item selected on the menu screen.

20

25                   20. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

- a detecting procedure causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

30                   a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and

- 35                   an issuing procedure causing the computer to issue a search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword in a dictionary which is selected as

a search target on the menu screen with respect to a dictionary search program.

5

21. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a computer to have a character input function, said  
10 character input program comprising:

a detecting procedure causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

a display procedure causing the computer to  
15 display a menu screen indicating registered programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and

a starting procedure causing the computer to start a program which is selected on the menu screen  
20 while specifying the keyword or an attribute value corresponding to the keyword as a parameter.

25

22. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

a detecting procedure causing the computer to  
30 detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen used for starting a program  
35 corresponding to the keyword when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and

a starting procedure causing the computer to



start the program corresponding to the keyword when a program start request is issued using the menu screen.

5

23. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a  
10 computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

a detecting program causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

15 a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen indicating registered conversion programs when the keyword is detected by said detecting procedure; and

a starting procedure causing the computer to  
20 start a conversion program which is selected using the menu screen to subject the keyword to a conversion according to the selected conversion program.

25

24. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a character input program for causing a  
30 computer to have a character input function, said character input program comprising:

a detecting procedure causing the computer to detect a keyword which is specified by one or more input characters;

35 a display procedure causing the computer to display a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in a state where the keyword is detected

by said detecting procedure; and  
an executing procedure causing the computer to  
execute a process using the keyword depending on an  
item selected on the menu screen.

5

10

15

20

25

30

35